

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

**ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

18 OCTOBER 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. South Vietnam

a. Nhu has returned to the attack. He is trying to dissuade us from allowing Buddhist leader Tri Quang to meet with the UN fact-finding mission.

b. Yesterday the Times of Vietnam said that to arrange such a meeting would be "the act of an enemy."

c. Nhu told correspondents that Buddhist monks now under arrest have asserted that CIA agents encouraged them to stage a coup. He hinted that these monks might be allowed to tell all to the UN mission.

d. On Wednesday Nhu gave an interview to the Australian novelist Morris West who described it as "the most blatant anti-American tirade I have heard." Among other things Nhu said he wanted all Americans to leave, including every helicopter pilot.

e. Cach Mang Quoc Gia, vernacular press organ of the government, has attacked US efforts to shield newsmen allegedly involved in plotting against Diem. It urged the regime to deal with them "in the same way as the Algerian Government

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has just acted vis-a-vis six foreign newsmen." This presumably means expulsion.

f. [redacted]

[redacted] the Viet Cong have received light antiaircraft artillery (37mm) from China. [redacted]

[redacted] these weapons would be quite effective against helicopters and other low-flying aircraft,

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2. Cuba

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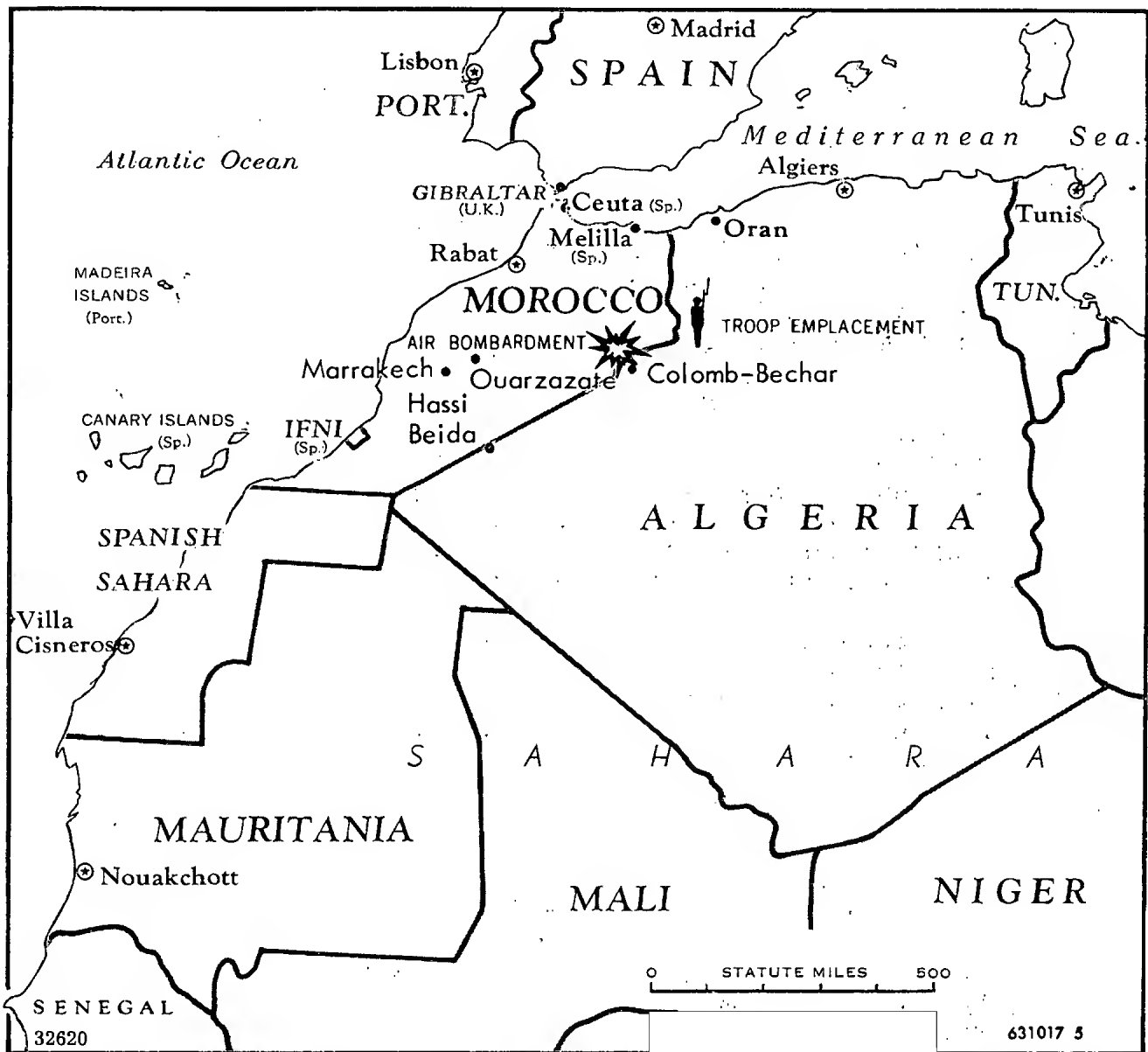
d. Cuba wants to resume diplomatic relations (broken in 1959) with Haiti. Duvalier's initial reaction has been noncommittal.

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3. USSR

a. An official in Moscow said yesterday that the departure of the Soviet trade mission for New York to discuss wheat has been delayed for a few days because delegation leader Borisov is sick. We suspect Borisov has a touch of "Berlin flu," but will recover soon.

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b. The impact of the poor harvest continues to dominate internal affairs. Moscow has taken measures to lessen its effect on the economy, to forestall civil disorders, to guard supplies of grain and to reassure the population that such failures will not happen again.

4. Morocco-Algeria

a. Fighting continues around the two disputed border posts, and the Algerians claim to have retaken one. This morning's press reports, however, seem heavily overdrawn.

b. The Algerian delegation to the Marrakech talks abruptly left Morocco almost as soon as it arrived. The talks probably broke down over Morocco's insistence on discussing its territorial claims and Algeria's refusal to do so.

c. Various Arab states and organizations are trying to calm things down and get negotiations resumed before the fighting spreads to new areas.

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d. Even if they succeed the suspicion with which Morocco and Algeria regard each other will deepen and each can be expected to support subversive activities in the other's backyard.

e. In Morocco, the border difficulties probably will rally support around King Hassan. In Algeria, on the other hand, the difficulties with Morocco are likely to weaken Ben Bella and encourage his opposition.

5. Algeria

a. The Algerian press continues its somewhat hysterical charges that the US is involved in Moroccan military air activity. The government has not yet seen fit to publish our denial.

b. These reports have already led to one incident of violence against our USIS center in Constantine.

c. A French journalist has told our UN mission in New York the Algerian delegation there is convinced the US is backing the Moroccans in order to bring down the

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Ben Bella government. The source said the Algerians also point to the "press campaign" against Ben Bella and are convinced that CIA is behind "this whole plot."

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6. Kenya

a. Duncan Sandys, not noted for his celerity, has yet to work out a constitutional settlement for Kenya. After three weeks of talks in London, he is still trying to persuade the small tribes to buy the stronger central government demanded by Prime Minister Kenyatta's majority party.

b. Kenyatta is furious at the delay and as a pressure tactic has instigated party leaders in Nairobi to demand that he leave the talks and proclaim Kenya independent on 20 October.

c. Either way the UK loses. If, as expected, the ultimate decision is regarded by the minority party as unacceptable, reaction in its tribal areas is expected to be swift and violent.

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d. Sandys will have to wind up the Kenya meeting pretty soon because next Tuesday he has to move on to another unenviable job--the conference on constitutional arrangements for British Guiana.

7. South Korea

a. Despite assurances that no retaliation will be taken against opposition leaders for their hard-fought election campaign, there have been some hints that Pak's major opponent Yun Po-sun may be jailed.

b. The regime has been informed that the US would condemn such arrests in strong terms.

c. In any event, Pak's tougher supporters are likely to pressure him for more extreme measures to make sure that the government wins the National Assembly elections on 26 November.

8. Honduras

a. President Villeda says he will return to Honduras from Costa Rica as soon as the military regime sets the date for new elections.

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b. Villeda expects to resume leadership of the Liberal Party once it expels his would-be successor Rodas.

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NOTES

- A. UK Macmillan has resigned and Home has apparently
been tapped.
- B. USSR An unmanned earth satellite was launched from
Tyuratam early this morning.

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